

FACT SHEET: U.S. Accomplishments During UN Fifth Committee Negotiations (May-June 2020 Session)

The United States continued to lead in the United Nations Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary Committee) which led to agreement on a range of issues related to the UN Peacekeeping budget, UN Reform, and oversight during this historic session:

Promoting UN Fiscal Discipline and Reform

- Secured a 3.4% cut in the 2020/2021 UN peacekeeping budget compared to the 2019/2020 budget. This translates into \$60 million of savings for the U.S. taxpayer for a total UN peacekeeping budget of \$6.58 billion for 12 peacekeeping missions. These strategic budget cuts were carefully applied to each peacekeeping mission to accurately reflect the situation on the ground and to ensure they would not negatively impact implementation of their respective mandates.
- Supported the Secretary-General's management reform implementation through the establishment of a key position to underpin business transformation and accountability.

Advancing UN Security Council Resolution 2436 (2018) Goal to Improve Performance in UN Peacekeeping

- Strengthened the UN's accountability measures by requiring peacekeeping missions to demonstrate how they are accomplishing their mandated tasks, and to provide a financial breakdown for how much each mandated task costs;
- Improved mission strategic planning capacities by requiring the UN to further implement the Comprehensive Performance Assessment System: a critical aspect of the performance pillar in the Secretary-General's Action for Peacekeeping Declaration.
- Endorsed the recommendations of the 2020 Contingent Owned Equipment Working Group, which include:
 - Long-term cost savings resulting from further classification and standardization of major equipment;
 - Reducing risks to peacekeepers by requiring pre-hospital trauma and buddy first-aid kits for deployment;
 - Aligning UN doctrine with international standards on explosive ordnance disposal and improvised explosive device (IED) disposal to enhance peacekeepers' capacity to combat increasingly sophisticated IEDs.

Ensuring Continued and Effective Mandate Implementation

- Provided funding for electoral assistance in the Central African Republic;
- Supported force adaptation and mobility plans in Mali and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to improve protection of civilians;
- Protected resources for new technologies such as Unmanned Aerial Systems, enhancing situational awareness in the field and reducing threats to safety and security of UN personnel;
- Successfully blocked any cuts to human rights or gender posts in missions, defending them against some countries that were opposed to strengthening human rights functions or to implementing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda;
- Protected mandated human rights, conduct and discipline, and oversight functions in support of peacekeeping mandates at UN Headquarters;
- Increased transparency on missions' programmatic activities, to prevent duplication and overlap with activities by the UN Country Team.
- Assured extension of special measures for active duty military and police seconded personnel, protecting continued U.S. interests in the program.